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August 9, 2005

AUG 1 2 2005

Federal Communications Commission Office of Secretary

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re:

CC Docket No. 96-45

Section 254(e) Self-Certification of

North Central Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Attached hereto is a sworn affidavit of Jerry Kirby, certifying that North Central Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (the "Cooperative") is in compliance with the requirements of Section 254 (e) and the requirements established by the Commission in *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 00-256, Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45 and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256 (FCC 01-157) (released May 23, 2001) ("Order") and codified at 47 C.F.R. §54.314. Because the Cooperative is not subject to the jurisdiction of a State, the Cooperative makes this certification directly to the FCC as provided for in paragraph 189 of the Order and 47 C.F.R. §54.314(b).

A copy of this Certification is also being filed this day with the Universal Service Administrative Cooperative at its Washington, D.C., offices.

Please acknowledge receipt on the duplicate "stamp and return" document attached for this purpose. All correspondence and inquiries concerning this filing should be addressed to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Chairman of the Board

Encl. cc:

Ms. Irene Flannery, Universal Service Administrative Company

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FCC CC Docket No. 96-45 FCC CC Docket No. 96-45 Section 254(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended 47 C.F.R. § 54.314

Federal Communications Commission Office of Secretary

CERTIFICATION of NORTH CENTRAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC. P. O. BOX 70, 872 E. HWY. 52 BYPASS, LAFAYETTE, TN 37083

AFFIDAVIT

I, Jerry Kirby, Chairman of the Board of North Central Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (the "Cooperative") do hereby certify under penalties of perjury, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the following is true and correct:

- I am the Chairman of the Board of the Cooperative; 1.
- The Cooperative is not subject to the jurisdiction of a state; 2.
- The Cooperative is a "rural telephone company" as defined in 47 U.S.C. 3. §153(37);
- The Cooperative is eligible for disbursements from the federal Universal 4. Service Fund ("USF") as prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"); and
- The Cooperative will use all federal high-cost support provided to it only for 5. the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

Signature:

Date:

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State of Tennessee, County of Macon

BEFORE ME, the undersigned Notary in and for the State of Tennessee, on this day personally appeared <u>Jerry Kirby</u>, known to me to be the Declarant, who, being duly sworn, executed the foregoing instrument.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of August, 2005.

My Commission expires <u>December 17, 2007</u>.

Werdy K. Moniso

Notary Public

(seal)